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## LETTER

FROM HIS

EXCELLENCIE

THE

Lord General Monck,

And the OFFICERS under his Gommand,

TO THE

PARLIAMENT;

In the Name of themselves and the Souldiers under  
them dated 11 of Feb. 1652.

With the Parliaments Answer thereto.

This Letter was read in the House the same day.



LONDON,

Printed by John Redmayn in Lovells Court in Water-Noster-Tow.

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LETTER

EXCELLENT

Lord General Monk

And the Office of the Commander

PARLIAMENT

In the name of the Commons and the 20th Decr 1690

Wherefore the Commons

This Letter was read to the House the 10th Decr

LONDON

Printed by J. W. at the Sign of the Gun in Fleet-Street

Mr. Speaker,

**W**E cannot but with thankfulnesse acknowledge the wonderfull Goodnesse of God to you, in your return to the discharge of your remaining Trueth; and to our selves, and your Forces under our Commands (after some difficulties) in bringing of us, by a tedious March in such safety to this place, to wait upon you in asserting the Freedoms of our native Countrey; and being here, (as we have to our utmost Hazard and Power been instrumental in your return,) so we shall be still ready to pursue your Commands so far as possibly we may. To evidence which, we have observed and executed your late Orders in relation to the Chains, Potts, and Gates of the City: which was something grievous to us, and to the Officers and the Souldiers under our Commands; and that because we do not remember any such thing was acted upon this City in all these Wars; and we fear that many sober people are much grieved at it, and apprehend further force to be offered to them; while they seem principally to desire the speedy filling up of the House, which you have declared for, as well as we have express'd our just desires of: and are apt to doubt, lest what we have done may be so far from answering the expected end, as that it may increase the discomposure of mens spirits in the Nation. Upon this occasion, it comes fresh into our minds, that when by the oratory of some Officers of the Army you were interrupted: we declared to the world, That the ground of our undertaking was not only your return to your Trust, but also the Vindication of the Liberties of the People, and the preservation of the Rights of our Countrey, the protection and encouragement of the godly and faithfull therein; as the establishment of the Peace of these Nations. Which Declarations made before the Lord, Angels, and men, in the day of our assembly, we (as we expect the blessing of the Lord upon our future undertakings) cannot but still own, and stand by.

We find that the asserting of the just Liberties of the people, is that which the generality of the Nation is much in expectation of; and that many sober people (together with our selves) are under fears, lest

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this great price that God hath put into your and our hands, (as your Servants should not be improved, but that we shall run in confusion again. Therefore we humbly crave leave to present before you some grounds of our fears: we are afraid that the late wonderfull and unparalleled deliverance, is not so publickly and solemnly acknowledged as it might be, that the Lord (who wrought so stupendiously) may have the glory of all: we are troubled that some as yet do sit in the House, who are impeached of Treason: we cannot but observe that divers Members of your House, (who contrary to their trust, stood in that Illegal and Tyrannical Committee of Safety) are not actually disabled from sitting there: notwithstanding Colonel Lamberts hath only the Vote of *Indemnity* to secure him from as high Crimes as have been Committed in this Nation, and is not obedient to your Orders, yet he seemeth to be winked at. We understand that Sir. Henry Vane upon bare pretence is permitted to stay about the City, to the great dissatisfaction of your best Friends; that there are dangerous Consultations, and that of those who had a chief hand in your late Interruption, and the hazarding of the whole Nations, contrary to our expectation. We find continued in the Army some persons of dangerous Principles, and such who were active enough in the late Defection. Though we are far from wishing the ruine of any, yet we could desire that your signal Indulgence to late Noxious Offenders, did meet with that Candid Reception from them, as to be so much the more ingenuous in their professed Repentance: but we observe that many of them do seek to justify themselves, and are not without their Agents in print to palliate their foul Enormities; which maketh us yet to suspect that we are in some danger of returning into the late dissension that you and the Nation are but newly delivered from.

We are not ignorant, that there are those who lately struck at the Root of *English Parliaments* in practice and Design, thereby have inflamed the Nation, and given great advantage to the Common Enemy, yet they are not without a strange confidence to precipitate men into a belief, that they are not only Persons against the one, and for the other. With grief of heart we do remember and would lament over the too palpable breach of Engagements in this Nation: Therefore we should think it a duty rather to mourn over the same, then to promote any new Oath to be taken at this time: Yet we perceive that there is a design to provoke the Parliament to enforce an Oath upon the Nation, and do take notice, that amongst others there are some who are most forward to promote the said design, who have made the least (if

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any conscience in keeping Engagements already taken. Here we must silence our deep resentment of a bold Petition, and of dangerous consequence, which was lately presented to you, the consequence whereof (if you should answer their desires) would be to exclude many of the most conscientious and sober sort of men from serving under you in Civil and Military employments, who have and would prove themselves most faithfull, and a door would be opened in design to retrieve the Interest of those who have (by the just hand of our gracious God) made themselves so apparently obnoxious. Moreover (which is not the least part of the venom of that Petition) we clearly see the same spirit which of late would have pull'd away the by-you-declared-just maintenance from Ministers, would now provoke you by an Oath to endanger the forcing away of many of the most godly from their maintenance. In urging our fears from the premises that concerns some of different principles from us, we would not be thought to (as we do not) design any thing that may incur the censure of unjust rigidity. We freely professe our desires, that tenderness of conscience may have its full just liberty, but we cannot in judgement account that tenderness of conscience which will not scruple at treachery it self or any unrighteousness to carry on corrupt designs.

Having presented you without fears, we shall adde our Resolutions; that by the help of God we shall stand by you in the pursuance of what we have declared for; And therefore do make this humble request to you: we could desire, that whilst you sit, your utmost endeavours may be to manifest your affectionate desires for the publick good of these Nations; Our further desire is, that those Regiments under your consideration (whose Officers are not) may be speedily pass'd. And in regard we find that the grand cause of the present heats and dissatisfactions in the Nation is, because they are not fully represented in Parliament, and seeing no other probable Expedient whereby to keep the Nation in peace, then by filling up your Number; we must therefore make this our main desire, upon which we cannot but insist, that you would proceed to issue forth Writts in order to Elections: for the better effecting whereof we entreat, that you would conclude upon due and full Qualifications, that not only those who have been actually in Arms against the Parliament may be excluded, but also such who in the late wars betwixt King and Parliament, have declared their dis-affection to the Parliament: And because the distracted condition of this Nation is at this hour so evident and pressing, we are con-

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strained for the just maintenance of your authority, and the satisfaction of all true English men, earnestly to desire, that all the Writs may be issued forth by Friday next, returnable at the usuall and legall time; For we think it convenient to acquaint you, that to pacifie the minds of this great City, in the prosecution of your late Commands, the chief of us did give an assurance thereof.

And we must not forget to remember you, that the time hastens wherein you have declared your intended Dissolution; which the people and our selves desire you would be punctual in. Hereby the Suspicion of your Perpetuation will be taken away, and the people will have assurance that they shall have a Succession of Parliaments of their own Election; which is the undoubted Right of the English Nation. You have promised and declared no less: both the people and your Armies do live in the hope and expectation of it. That we may the better wait for your full and free Concurrence to these just desires on the Nations behalfe: upon Mature deliberation we have thought it our duty as to continue the usual Guards for the safety of your sitting, so for the present to draw the rest of the Forces under our Command into the City, that we may have the better opportunity to compose spirits and beget a good understanding in that great City, formerly renowned for their resolute adhering to Parliamentary Authority, and we hope that the same spirit will be found still to breath amongst the best, most considerable and interested persons there. This Action of ours, as we hope it will receive your favourable interpretation, so we do believe it will (through the blessing of God) be of good use for the present peace, and future settlement of these Nations. These are our thoughts which we communicate to you, in the Names of our selves, and the Officers and Souldiers under our Commands, we are

Your Honours most  
humble Servants,

White-hall  
Feb. 11. 1659.

GEORGE MONCE

Tho. Sanders.	Tho. Read.	} Colonels.
Leon. Estcot.	Ra. Knight.	
Jo. Cleberry.	Dan. Redman.	
Jo. Hubblethorne.		
Eichelbert Morgan, Lieut. Col.		
Nathaniel Burton, M. Jst.		
Tho. Johnson.		} Majors.
Jec. Smith.		
Thos. Pryme.		
F. A. Nichols.		
Pet. Baillister.		

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Saturday, 11 Feb.

**U**pon the reading of the Letter the House Resolved,  
 That the thanks of this House be given unto General  
 Monck for his faithfull service in securing the City,  
 and that as to the filling up of the House, the Parliament were  
 upon the Qualifications before the receipt of the said Letter  
 and the same will be dispatch'd in due time.

F I N I S.